Clearing of Backlog of telephone connections

5362. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to clear the backlog for telephone connections in various States;

(b) if so, the present position, State-wise;

(c) the efforts being made to clear the backlog and target date fixed therefor; and

(d) the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) The State-wise waiting list as on 31.3.2000 and the target for providing new telephone connections during 2000-2001 are given in the statement (*See* below). In order to clear the backlog existing exchanges are being expanded and new exchanges are being opened. Also, the customer access network is being expanded, wherever required. The Ninth five year plan (1997—2002) of DoT envisages to provide telephone on demand by 31.3.2002 with the private sector supplementing the efforts of the Government.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of State	Waiting List as on 31.3.2000	Target for new Telephone connection 2000-2001
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	377058	575000
2.	Assam	5475	55000
3.	Bihar	106196	260000
4.	Gujarat	232624	330000
5.	Haryana	73262	150000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	24708	60000
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	31882	50000
8.	Karnataka	332189	425000
9.	Kerala	647165	450000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	40534	150000
11.	Maharashtra	287277	840000

1	2	3	4
12.	North-East	26023	50000
13.	Orissa	42527	100000
14.	Punjab	176732	250000
15.	Rajasthan	95172	210000
16.	Tamil Nadu	615096	700000
17.	Uttar Pradesh	325048	490000
18.	West Bengal	159876	445000
19.	Delhi	81871	200000
	TOTAL	3680715	5790000

Note : Gujarat State includes Dadar Diu, Daman & Nagar Haveli (U.T.) Kerala State includes Lakshadweep (U.T).Maharashtra State includes Goa & MTNL Mumbai.North-East Telecom circle includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura States. Punjab State includes Chandigarh (U.T.).Tamil Nadu State includes Chennai and Pondicherry (U.T). West Bengal state includes Calcutta & Sikkim, Andaman Nicobar State.

Waiting list of telephone connections in U.P.

5363. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for granting telephone connections in the various cities of Uttar Pradesh, district-wise/city- wise as on 31st March, 2000;

(b) the number of telephone connections allotted in these cities during the last 3 years, district-wise/city-wise;

(c) the number of telephone connections proposed to be allotted during the year 2000-2001; and

(d) the time by which the above list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections as on 31.3.2000 and the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years, district wise in Uttar Pradesh is given in Statement-I for UP(East) and Statement-II for U.P. (West) (*See* below).

(c) The number of telephone connections proposed to be provided in Uttar Pradesh during 2000-2001 is given as below:

U.P. (East) — 3,00,000
U.P. (West) — 1,90,000